





## EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS  
with Ferrin Cox

There have been several readers who were concerned about the lines through a lot of the copy in Amendment #1, which will be published for four weeks, beginning last week. Folks, those strike thoughts are there to show all of us how the law currently reads - before the related changes which are being proposed. By reading that and the new wording, we are supposed to get some idea of how the new law will change the way we do business. That method is used regularly in the legislature as lawmakers consider any changes to existing law. It prevents them from having to hold up two different sets of the law to figure out what is going on.

The mess going on in California is a great example of how not to have a public official recall law. It may have been fine back in the 1920s, we don't know, but it is a mess in today's world. Most any state in the nation could gather that small percentage of anti votes (12% of voters in last gubernatorial election) to trigger a recall election, even the first day after the election, especially when the needed petition signers are a small fraction of those who voted against the winner in the first place. We don't have any idea if the governor of California is good or bad, but he was re-elected for a second term only last fall. Now, if that wasn't enough for California residents to be embarrassed, there are well over a hundred (100) folks who have managed to get their name on the ballot to replace the sitting governor! Anyone with \$3500 plus 65 signatures and a desire to run is eligible. What a nightmare for voters on election night. The abilities of these candidates are probably just as varied as can be imagined... from zero to whatever. The reported life experiences of some of the candidates would put a scare in thinking Alabama folks, 'cause we just might elect one of them. It has been done before, more than once at every level of government. Oh, one more thing, this special election is expected to cost a broke state of California \$67 million. Maybe they aren't so different from Alabamians after all!

George Jones will be singing in Elba this weekend. The event should bring in a lot of visitors to our town. Hopefully they will get a positive impression of the community. Leading off the event will be Elba's own Rob Hudson, who is scheduled to kick off the music at 6:30 Saturday evening. Since the event is being held in the old high school football stadium, we expect there is still seating for sale, maybe right on up to music time Saturday night.

## ANNOUNCING A NEW PUBLICATION

Cox Production Company announces a limited edition publication.  
**1 new 2003 model Baby Boy!**  
Released and Copyrighted, August 15, 2003

Title of Production ..... Christopher Heath Cox Jr.  
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The Cox Productions Company maintains a large, dedicated and loyal support staff including three year old sister Sarah.

Other Publications of Cox Productions... to be announced  
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**SPECIFICATIONS**  
Changeable Dust Covers ..... Distinctive Page Numbers  
2 Lung Index  
Water Cooled Printing ..... Conservative Design  
Streamline Pages ..... Pliable Covers  
Dark Curly Top Cover ..... Loveable Facade  
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**NOTE:** The management assures the admiring public that there will be no re-issue of this collector's edition and no new publications will be issued during the year.

This is a very limited edition and the only known copy is PRICELESS, but is housed at 502 Groce St., Opelika, AL after being temporary on display at East Alabama Medical Center. The Publication is now on permanent display in a special viewing room at the Opelika editorial offices. Arrangements are being made for temporary display with senior publishing assistants and senior editors. Exact dates will be announced as they are formulated. Final plans for display in the Opelika Public Schools will not be announced until September 2008.

## The Elba Clipper

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**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**  
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$19 per year  
6 Months - \$10, including city & state tax  
Alabama Counties - \$21 per year - including tax  
6 months - \$11  
Outside Alabama - \$24 per year - 6 months - \$13

## Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, Aug. 11, 2003, investigated the following incidents: one damage to property, three for burglary, two for theft of property, one harassing communications, one criminal mischief, one breaking and entering of a vehicle, one assault and one leaving the scene of an accident.

The following arrests were made: one for failure to appear.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: three for no insurance, six for not wearing a seat belt, two for not using a child restraint safety system, one for an open container, two for no proof of insurance, one for driving on the levee, two for driving with a suspended driver's license, one for running a stop sign and one for driving with no driver's license.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:

**MONDAY, AUGUST 11** - River stage - 10.28 feet (6:17 a.m.). One-vehicle wreck reported at 609 Pine Cove Dr. (12:44 p.m.). Elba Fire Department dispatched to 2251 Old Curtis Rd. (6:20 p.m.).

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 12** - River stage - 9.05 feet (6:23 a.m.). Wreck (vehicle vs. tree) reported on Old Samson Rd. (9:52 a.m.); Routine activity.

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13** - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 761 Herman Druggers Dr. (12:35 a.m.); Wreck (vehicle vs. deer) reported on Hwy. 166 in front of school (5:40 a.m.); River stage - 7.99 feet (6:10 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 302 Brunson St. (8:36 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a wreck reported at 3335 County Rd. 105 (2:20 p.m.); Possible stolen vehicle reported at Gene's Auto Sales (2:23 p.m.); Two-vehicle wreck reported at the intersection of Hickman and Reese Ave. (5:39 p.m.).

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 14** - River stage - 9.85 feet (6:00 a.m.).

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## Elba BOE to hold budget hearings

The Elba City Board of Education will hold a public hearing on Thursday, Aug. 28, at 12:30 p.m. and at the regular board meeting Tuesday, Sept. 9, at 5 p.m. for the purpose of presenting the system-wide budget including federal programs, at-risk funds and technology funds. The meetings will be held at the Elba City Board of Education, 131 Tiger Drive, Elba, AL 36323 or calling David Stokes at (334) 897-2801. Information will be available also at the board of education hearings on the dates listed above.

The reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (P.L. 107-110) also known as the No Child Left Behind Act requires public schools to give notice to live in the public school's district that they may request to participate in the programs and funding under this law. This notice to any licensed private school serving students who live in the Elba City Schools district that it may receive information on how to gain participation in Title I, Title II, Title IV programs by contacting Elba City Schools at (334) 897-2801. Information will be available also at the board of education hearings on the dates listed above.

## County BOE plans budget hearings

The Coffee County Board of Education will hold the first public hearing to present the system-wide budget for Fiscal Year 2004 on Thursday, Aug. 28, at 11 a.m. The second public hearing will be at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 4.

Both public hearings will be held at the Board of Education Administrative Office at 400 Reddick Hill Road, Elba, Parishes, teachers and interested citizens may attend these budget hearings.

Budget forms will be available at the superintendent's office prior to the hearing. On Sept. 4, the board will hold its regular meeting at 7 p.m. to approve the FY2004 budget.

3rd Annual Foggy Bottom Classic  
Thursday, Aug. 21  
Miller Memorial Stadium  
Kickoff @ 7 p.m.

## BULLETIN BOARD

- ABUSING CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES THROUGH CHRISTIANITY - 4th Tues. 12:30-1:30. Call FREE 1-800-772-1213.
- ROTARY CLUB - Tuesday, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Elba City Board of Education.
- ELBA CITY COUNCIL - 2nd & 4th Monday - 6 p.m. City Hall.
- WATER & ELECTRIC - Tuesday following 2nd Monday 6 p.m. - City Hall.
- ELBA MINISTRIAL ASSN. - 8 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.
- GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP - Every Monday 6:30 p.m. Elba United Methodist Church-entrance on side on W. Davis St. Maggie Garrett Classroom.
- COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION - 2nd & 4th Monday - Community Room in Farm Center Complex of New Brockton.
- LIONS CLUB - 2nd & 4th Tues. 6:30 p.m. Senior Citizen Center.
- ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD - 1st Thurs. 5:30 p.m. - Supt. Office.
- AMERICAN LEGION - 1st Tuesday of every month 7:00 p.m. Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.
- MASONIC LODGE 176 - 1st & 3rd Monday of each month - 7 p.m. - 7 p.m. Ball Room @ Elba High School.
- VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER - Mon-Fri. 8-12 noon & 12:30 - 4:30 Noon @ Farm Center Complex 804-5858.
- COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN. - 3rd Sat. - 3 p.m. Club House.
- COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN - 3rd Wed. Noon - Colony Inn, Enterprise.
- ELBA AIRPORT AUTHORITY - 2nd Thursday at noon, Discolc Hangar at the Airport.
- AARP meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month.
- ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB - 1st & 3rd Monday - 7 p.m. - Elba High boys locker room.
- NEW SEASONS STUDY CLUB - Every 3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m.

This space made possible by National Scientific Instrument Co.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Linda,

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the town merchants who donated items for the auction at J.D. Fowler, The Lockheart Fire Dept., and the First Assembly of God of Florida. We feel so blessed and very fortunate to live in a caring community of friends and family who support us 100%. We surely cannot mention everyone who has called or sent cards but they all are greatly appreciated.

We are very grateful to all the community churches who have put Lexy on their prayer list.

May God Bless you all.

Richie, Amy, Whitney and Lexy Rugg

Dear EHS Class of 1997:

Your donation of \$480 was recently deposited in the Elba High School Library Fund.

As you grieved over the loss of classmate Jason Jordan and sought ways to show your love and respect for him and his family, you looked to Elba High School.

Some of our most formative years were spent here, and you recall a time when life was simpler because you were not yet adults. Since leaving your alma mater you have taken different individual paths, but still consider yourself "the Class of '97." It is in this vein that you asked me to buy something for the school and indicate your class bought it in memory of Jason.

With several things in mind, I have contacted Jason's parents to let them know of your generous donation and to ask for suggestions from them. This is a difficult time, and I thank you for allowing Elba High School to be a part of your memorial contribution for Jason Jordan.

Respectfully,

Margaret Calhoun, LMS

Elba High School

Dear Editor,

Governor Riley says to vote yes September the 9th and finally bring a real change to Alabama. As I understand he claims his tax package is going to help the poor, low income, working class and middle class people. I have noticed that he has not said a word about the potential increase or sales and use tax, how about insurance rates, or just getting your car serviced? When you go down to the court house you will find that the recording fees for deeds and mortgages have doubled. You home owners may be surprised to know what your home is worth these days, have

you had your home appraised lately? The current tax for a \$100,000 home is \$39 a year. Governor Riley's tax plan on a \$100,000 home is \$75 a year. Your farmers had better pay attention and get out and vote. The current state tax on 240 acres with \$600 per acre value is \$31.20. The Governor's tax plan on the same amount of land at the same value would equal \$84 in state tax.

Most everyone needs transportation and vehicles cost as much now as we paid for our homes thirty years ago. If vehicles were not already most out of reach for working people the Governor's tax plan will increase \$50 per \$10,000 or purchase price. Currently the resident tax for a \$20,000 vehicle is \$19.50. In 2004 it will be \$31.50. 2005 - \$44.10, 2006 \$56.70 and in 2007 it will be \$70.

In 2002 the candidate Riley said the first step in creating a stable and reliable funding mechanism is to implement a system of prior year budgeting.

"By budgeting based on the prior year's revenues, we avoid the dangers of overestimating and spending too much." If we couple prior year budgeting with funding a proration prevention account and removing non-education items from the education trust fund, proration will become a relic of the past.

I believe that with Governor Riley being opposed to the gambling lottery and the above-stated plan he was elected Governor of the State of Alabama. The Governor must think we have short memories.

Governor Riley's \$1.2 billion dollar tax plan is too big in size, scope and speed for the economy of Alabama and is an imposition to the citizens. Governor Riley must know that our farmers have suffered from recent droughts, and if he had paid

attention he would have taken into consideration that our textile mills have closed. There are a lot of unemployed people here in Elba, Kleiner's has closed their doors and Dorsey Trailers only employs a fraction of the people it did ten years ago. The picture is the same all across most of Alabama, exceptions being in areas of our new and coming industries. The Governor paints a pretty picture saying his tax package is directed at the big timber producers and big businesses, like insurance companies, but you can rest assure that they are going to pass it on to you the consumer.

All pulpwood products are going up, tissue papers, 4x4 siding, etc. The insurance companies will just pass their additional tax on down to the policy holders in higher premiums. That's right folks, it's my opinion it's the same stuff the Governor is feeding us that comes out of the north end of a south bound bull.

Alabama has a labor market, interstate road system, technical schools and climate that industry is interested in. With our beautiful beaches and mountains a lot more can be done to attract tourists as well. Income through imposed taxation is not the only way to solve the deficit. It also may help if the 2002 candidate Riley implements his stable reliable funding plan for education that he promised. We sure haven't heard any more about it since he was elected Governor about seven months ago.

Jack Parker

EXPRESS YOUR VIEWS  
WRITE A  
LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Elba Elementary School  
Menu  
Aug. 25 - 29, 2003

BREAKFAST	LUNCH
<b>Monday</b> - Cheese Sandwich, Cereal, Juice, Milk	<b>Monday</b> - Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce, Green Salad, Buttered Carrots, Crackers, Sliced Pears, Milk
<b>Tuesday</b> - Pancakes/Syrup, Link Sausage, Cereal, Juice, Milk	<b>Tuesday</b> - Chicken Sandwich, Corn, Green Beans, Applesauce, Milk
<b>Wednesday</b> - Biscuit & Jelly, Sausage Patty, Cereal, Juice, Milk	<b>Wednesday</b> - Cornedog, Macaroni & Cheese, Turnips, Cornbread, 1/2 Apple, Milk
<b>Thursday</b> - Breakfast Pizza, Cereal, Juice, Milk	<b>Thursday</b> - Chicken Nuggets, Potato Salad, Field Peas, Roll, 1/2 Orange, Milk
<b>Friday</b> - Cheese Grits, Toast & Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk	<b>Friday</b> - Cheesecake, French Fries, Lettuce, Tomato, Dill Pickles, Jello, Milk



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## Obituaries

WANDA ANN (TAYLOR) CORLEY

Mrs. Wanda Ann (Taylor) Corley, age 62, of Elba, Ala., died Aug. 14, 2003 at Elba General Hospital in Elba.

Funeral services were held Aug. 17, 2003 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Mari Gray officiating. Burial followed in the Evergreen Cemetery of Elba with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include her husband, Jack Corley, Elba; one son, Jud Corley and wife Donna, Enterprise; two daughters: Judy and husband Rick Kessock, Daleville, Ala.; Casey and husband Bill King, Fort Worth, Texas; two grandsons, one granddaughter and one great-granddaughter.

ALBERT OSCAR TYSON JR.  
Mr. Albert Oscar Tyson Jr., age 47, died Aug. 5, 2003.

Funeral services were held Aug. 9, 2003 at Rocky Head Missionary Baptist Church in Elba with Rev. A.R. Williams officiating. Burial followed at Evergreen Cemetery in Elba with Coleman Funeral Home directing.

Mr. Tyson was preceded in death by his father, Albert Oscar Tyson Sr., and a sister, Pearl Mae Phillips.

Survivors include his wife, Barbara Tyson, Schenectady, N.Y.; one daughter, Alicia Marie Tyson, Schenectady, N.Y.; one son, Albert Oscar Tyson III, Cohoes, N.Y.; his mother, Lizzie Pearl Tyson, Elba; four brothers: Eugene Tyson, Pensacola, Fla.; Robert (Mary) Tyson, Orlando, Fla.; Ernest (Shirley) Tyson, Geneva, Ala.; Jim (Jimmie Lou) Tyson, Opelika, Ala.; five sisters: Minnie Daniels, Merle Daniels, Mary (Rudolph) Kyles, Besse (Rev. A.R.) Williams, all of

Elba; and Carolyn (Rev. Cornelius) Clark, Cohoes, N.Y.

Funeral services were held Aug. 19, 2003 at New Haven Assembly of God Church in Brundidge with Rev. Calvin Farelch and Rev. Ray Giles officiating. Burial followed in Haw Hill Assembly of G-d Cemetery with Skeen Funeral Home of Brundidge directing.

Survivors include Donald (Becky) Griswold, Enterprise; Margean (Larry) Kelley, Troy; Linda Reeves, Brundidge; Audrey Simmons, New Brockton; Jerry (Linda) Griswold, Brundidge; 12 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, J.C. and Elma Daughtry; husband, Raif Griswold; son, James Griswold; grandson, Greg Crook.

"Celebrate... Elba 150"

Upcoming Events

August 23

George Jones Concert

September 6

"Sesquicentennial" Ball

King/Queen Crowned

September 18

Chamber Banquet / "50"

October 9

"The History of Elba" Play

October 10

Prayer Breakfast / "150"

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Appreciation Day

October 11

Grand Celebration

October 12

Reception

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Dr. Ray King, FACOG, is certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the American Council for Gynecologic Endoscopy. He was trained at the University of Tennessee, is an American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology Fellow, and a member of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine, International Society of Gynecologic Endoscopy, American Medical Association, Society of Reproductive Surgeons, and American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists.

He brings a wealth of knowledge, skill and experience in OB/GYN services to women of all ages in Covington County and surrounding areas.

Appointments can be made beginning August 25 by calling Dr. King's office, located in the Mizell Memorial Hospital complex, Medical Office Building Three, Suite B, 101 East Paulk Ave., Opp.

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# SPORTS

Views from....

## THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

School has been in session for over two weeks now and Melanie is still enjoying the start of her freshman year even though she has already had a test in every subject and has to somehow find enough hours in the day to practice volleyball and be a cheerleader. While she doesn't get to school quite as early as she did the first week, she still gets out the door before Mom heads down the driveway and has yet to forget any books. Maybe Melanie is beginning to get this school thing figured out after only ten years of practice!

### FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH....

\*\*\* The third annual "Foggy Bottom Football Classic" will be played tonight (Thursday) at Miller Memorial Stadium and what began a few years back as a fund-raiser for the Elba High School athletic program has grown into an annual trek back to the place where the Elba Tigers used to rule the world of high school football in South Alabama. The Tigers will host Samson again this season in the annual preseason battle, and this year for the first time ever Elba may actually be the underdog in the contest. The Tigers from Foggy Bottom will be young and inexperienced, while the Tigers from down in Samson will be a senior-laden squad looking for a winning season. The pads will be popping, the bands will be playing and the excitement will be back at Miller Memorial. Yep, tonight's game will be just as exciting as the hundreds of others that were played at Foggy Bottom, and I hope all true Tiger fans come out and support this year's team. See ya there.

\*\*\* The news out of Daleville High School was anything but good last week as Coach John Moten was suspended for one year and the Warhawks were placed on restrictive probation after being found in violation of two AHSAA rules concerning preseason practice. Last season Daleville paid a fine after being found guilty of going to two summer camps, but this year the Warhawks once again were found guilty of going to more than one camp, and this year they were also found guilty of allowing players to use pads, which is prohibited. Coach Moten was suspended by Daleville school officials after the AHSAA hit Daleville with a one-year suspension from the state playoffs, and now the "Hawks must try to regroup in only a matter of days and follow long time prep coach Harry Wayne Parrish as he leads the program through the hard times ahead. Maybe one day the powers to be such as the AHSAA and the NCAA will punish the coaches that break the rules and not the players, who simply do as they are told. Until then, the innocent must pay for the crimes of others.

\*\*\* Can you believe the news that is coming out of Baylor University since the body of one of its basketball players was discovered and another one of its players was charged with murder. Now it has been reported that former Baylor Coach Dave Bliss met with some of the players and coaches and told them to lie about the incident and tell police that the murdered player was a drug dealer and was probably killed over a drug deal gone bad. He reportedly said even though it was a lie, the player in question would never tell the truth since he was dead. If this is what big time college athletics has evolved into on some campuses, maybe it is already past time to sit back and take a long look at the system as a whole. Murder? Coverups? I thought this was college athletics.

\*\*\* In closing...I would like to thank everyone that said an extra prayer last week for my Mom as she underwent emergency open heart surgery. The surgery went well and she has now begun the long road to recovery, and I know your prayers helped make the difference. My Mom has already been around for over 78 years, and with your thoughtfulness and caring maybe she still has many more left. Thanks, again!

### Will Mack grabs fifth checkered flag of the racing season at SAS

By Mark Chisum

Jody Henderson visited Victory Lane 10 times in 2002, but increased competition and mechanical problems have kept the Opp driver out of the winner's circle for most of the 2003 season. Henderson has only two wins in 2003, the last coming on May 3. Saturday night, everything seemed like the old days as Henderson led all 25 laps to take the win in the Super Stock Feature. Greg Rabern got by David Ashley on the second lap and followed Henderson for the remainder of the race. Scotty Anderson, who came into the race on a two race win streak, came from the eighth starting spot to finish third. Heath Mills, making his first start in a couple of months placed fourth. Ashley slid back to fifth in the final order.

In the Modified Feature, Zach Hammett took advantage of the situation to come away with the win. Hammond took the early lead and led until Kevin Peel took over lap 18. Peel appeared headed to the win, but he slowed when another car spun on the last lap. Under South Alabama Speedway rules, once the white flag has been displayed, the caution will not be shown and you race back to the checkered flag. When Peel slowed, Hammett jumped at the opportunity and

regained the lead. Peel tried desperately to run Hammett back down, but Hammett held him off for the win. Jamie Ater was third, followed by Ken Gibson, and Randy Poole.

In the Street Stock Feature, Stacy Bedsole took the lead on the first lap and led flag to flag to take his fourth win of the season. Scott Morse quickly moved into second, but couldn't mount a challenge to Bedsole's lead. Derek Deese came from the sixth starting spot to claim third. Lee Norsworthy finished fourth with Todd Valdez fifth.

Will Mack came from the 12th starting spot to take his fifth win of the year. Mack moved into fourth on lap five and got a break when Greg Morse and Jason Singletary, running second and third got together bringing out the caution. Both were sent to the rear, moving Mack into second. It took Mack two laps before he moved past Kim Bishop for the lead. Mack had to survive a restart with four laps to go to capture the win. Bishop was second with John Singletary third and Jason Gess fourth. Jason Singletary came back to finish fifth.

For more information, contact the track at (334) 565-3539, or visit the track's web site at [www.southalabamasppeedway.com/](http://www.southalabamasppeedway.com/)

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### Samson to provide preseason test

## Elba Tigers will give fans a preview of things to come in third annual Foggy Bottom Classic

The third annual "Foggy Bottom Football Classic" will be held tonight (Thursday) at Miller Memorial Stadium when the Elba Tigers and Samson Tigers battle for the second straight year in a preseason high school football game.

The game will begin at 7:00 PM and will consist of three quarters of varsity action and one fifteen minute period of junior varsity play. Kickoff and extra-points will be live, while punts will be used to measure distance only, with no rushing and no returns.

"We began playing a preseason game down at Miller Memorial two years ago as a fund raiser," stated Elba's Coach Mike Waters, "and it has grown into an annual event that everyone in the area looks forward to. It gives our players and fans the chance to return to the old Elba High stadium that was the home of the Tigers until 1992, and at the same time gives the coaches a chance to see the players in actual game situations

a week before the actual season kicks off. Samson has an excellent football team and a winning tradition, and there is no doubt they will come up looking to gain some momentum heading into the season. The game will be very competitive and should be fun for the fans."

The game will be a rematch of last year's preseason contest won by Elba 14-0, but Coach Waters warned that this year's game will be much different since Elba has lost thirteen seniors and fourteen starters from last year's 5-5 Tiger team. "We lost a lot of players that had been part of the program for many years," added Waters, in his third season at the Elba helm, "but that is how it goes in high school, and now we just have to work with the new group and mold them into winning football players. We will be very young and inexperienced at many positions. However, that makes the preseason game even more important. The players have worked hard during the

summer getting faster and stronger, and now it is time to put on the pads, turn on the lights and see what we have. We will get all our players in the game to give us a chance to evaluate them on the field and see them on film, and at the same time we will try our best to give the players a chance to win the game. Winning is always important and it will be the goal for both teams when we take the field Thursday night, but another key is giving the players a chance to show how they can perform on the field against another team, and that is why we are playing the game. Samson has around 15 seniors and is looking to have one of its best teams in years. So, I know Coach Mikel and his players will give us a tremendous challenge in all areas of the game."

"I urge all Elba fans and area high school football fans to come out to Miller Memorial Stadium Thursday night to watch two high school football teams battle on the field," said



COACH MIKE WATERS

Coach Waters, "Both teams will make money off the gate and these days every team in every sport needs extra funding. I know there are some games being played Friday, but we will play on Thursday and invite everyone to come out and get back in the mood to see high school football."

## Kickoff of 2003 high school football season is filled with exciting season openers for many area teams

The high school football season will kick off next week all across the state and for area fans the opening week's schedule will include a number of very entertaining match-ups.

Following is a preview of the opening week's match-ups:

### ELBA AT BRANTLEY

The Elba Tigers handed the Brantley Bulldogs a stinging 13-0 defeat in last year's season opener for both teams, and while the two long time rivals will meet once again this season for a week one showdown, this year it will be the Bulldogs that will enter the game as the heavy favorite to emerge with a victory.

Elba will be without 14 starters from a year ago, including 13 seniors, and will face the task of rebuilding its entire offensive backfield as the season goes along. The Tigers do appear solid up front, however, even there Elba is young and inexperienced, which will make the early week's of the season a test for both the coaches and players.

Brantley is looking to return to Birmingham in a shot at the state title and appears to be loaded with talent and experience at almost every position. The Bulldogs will boast size and strength up front and a stable of outstanding backs and receivers, which has many area fans convinced that the '03 season will be one Brantley will long remember.

While Brantley will be a prohibitive favorite based upon experience, Elba has won 12 games over the past two years and is now convinced it can win at the 3A level. This should be a very interesting game for the fans of both the Tigers and the Bulldogs.

### ZION CHAPEL AT NEW BROCKTON

The New Brockton Gamecocks pounded the Zion Chapel Rebels 48-0 in last year's season opening contest and went on to win seven games and make a trip to the state playoffs. While this year's game should be more competitive, the Gamecocks appear to still be the small school power in the county.

New Brockton will return a number of quality players at key positions and the Gamecocks have their fans buzzing about what many expect to be another banner season. The Gamecocks' wing-t offense will be back after two years of fine tuning and should be ready to roll, while over on defense New Brockton is always tough and loves to hit. Zion Chapel will be under the direction of its third head football coach in three years, and while the Rebels are excited and looking forward to the start of the season, even the biggest Rebel fan knows it may take years to rebuild the program at Zion Chapel. The numbers are

up and so is the excitement level. So, this game could be one to keep an eye on when they tee it up next week in New Brockton.

New Brockton will be a heavy favorite and may simply be too talented and experienced to Zion Chapel in week one action. However, the scoreboard will read 0-0 when they kick it off and when county rivals get together anything can happen.

### MCKENZIE AT HOUSTON ACADEMY

One of the top week one shootouts in the small school ranks will take place in Dothan when the Houston Academy Raiders host the McKenzie Tigers. Houston Academy rolled to an 11-2 record last season, but stumbled in its opener over McKenzie, and has to be looking forward to hosting the Tigers, which posted a 12-1 slate last season. This game should tell area fans a lot about both small school powers.

### GENEVA COUNTY AT GENEVA

The Geneva County Bulldogs stumbled to an 0-1 record last season and opened the year with a big loss to cross-county rival Geneva, but this season it is the Bulldogs that are making most of the noise in preseason work-outs and for the first time in years this game has actually stirred some interest outside the county. Geneva has its long time coach Leavy Boutwell to Northview since last season and is expected to be in a rebuilding year. However, the Panthers still have pride and are loaded with players that learned how to win under Coach Boutwell. While this one could be a lot closer than in years past, the Panthers will still be favored.

### GOSHEN AT DALEVILLE

While this one may look like a mismatch on paper, the 2A Eagles from Goshen have as many athletes as many much larger teams, while the 4A Warhawks are still staggering from the loss of their coach and being placed on restrictive probation by the AHSAA. Daleville could take out its off-field frustrations on the Eagles and make this one ugly, but Goshen always plays to win and if the Eagles can get off to a solid start it could be one to watch.

### LUVERNE AT OPP

Former Opp Bobcat standout and Alabama Crimson Tide head coach Mike DuBoise will make a return to his old stomping grounds when he leads the Luverne Tigers to Opp to tangle with the Opp Bobcats. The 4A Bobcats won four games last season as they continued the long road back to winning football after a series of down seasons, while Luverne won eight games last year and are always a 2A contender. Opp is no longer anyone's whipping boy and will

be looking to start the season with a bang against Coach DuBoise and his 2A powerhouse from Crenshaw County. This one has "headline" written all over it.

### W.S. NEAL AT HILLCREST

The W.S. Neal Eagles are looking to be a 3A contender this season and should find out in a hurry just how much improved they are when they travel to Evergreen for a week #1 showdown against the 4A Hillcrest Jaguars. The Eagles posted a disappointing 6-4 slate last year and missed the state playoffs, but have a new coach in Shane Smothers and the youthful former McKenzie coach has everyone in East Brewton excited about the season. The Jaguars have developed into a consistent winner under Alton Hudson and are also looking forward to the season after winning six games a year ago and making an appearance in the state playoffs. Everyone on W.S. Neal's schedule will keep an eye on this one.

### PIKE COUNTY AT EUFAULA

The Pike County Bulldogs are picked to contend for the state 3A championship again this season and should be as good as advertised. However, the Bulldogs must open the season on the road and will do so in Eufula against the 5A Eufula Tigers. The Bulldogs are without a doubt one of the top teams in their class and have the talent to beat anybody on their schedule, but Eufula has long been a 5A power and will be looking to get a leg up on another big season with a win over highly-touted Pike County. This may be the best game on tap this week.

### ANDALUSIA AT CHARLES HENDERSON

The Andalusia Bulldogs will have a new coach and a new attitude when they travel to Troy to battle the Charles Henderson Trojans, in one of the oldest rivalries in South Alabama. The

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# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Eight local seniors set to compete in Coffee County Jr. Miss Scholarship program



Angela Brown of Enterprise is the daughter of Don and Frances Brown. She is a senior at Enterprise High School.



Blake Brunson of Elba is the daughter of Jack E. and Jane B. Brunson. She is a senior at Elba High School.



Heather Carroll of New Brockton is the daughter of Debra S. and Gregory N. Carroll. She is a senior at New Brockton High School.



Laura Henderson of Enterprise is the daughter of Vicki Henderson. She is a senior at Enterprise High School.



Britney Lolley of Enterprise is the daughter of Gary and Kelley Lolley. She is a senior at Enterprise High School.



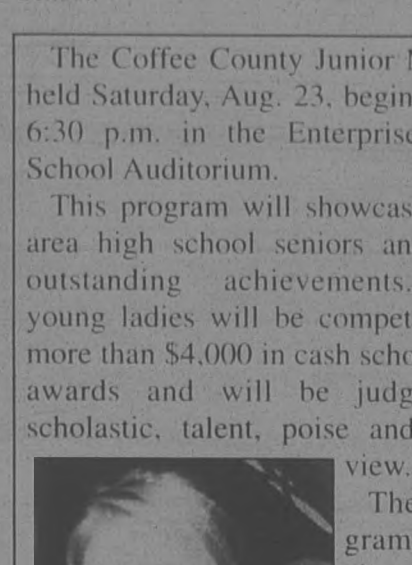
Mary Kathryn Rhine of Enterprise is the daughter of David and Diane Rhine. She is a senior at Enterprise High School.



Brittany Thompson of Elba is the daughter of Ray and Marcia Thompson. She is a senior at Zion Chapel High School.



Molly Tomberlin of Enterprise is the daughter of John and Jan Tomberlin. She is a senior at Enterprise High School.

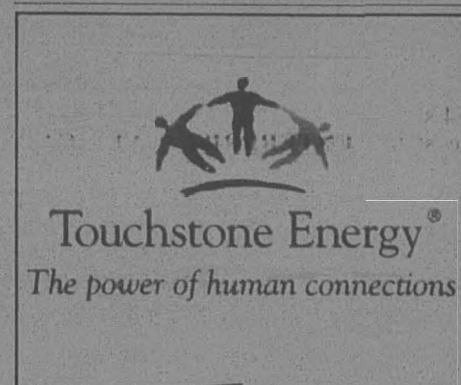


Tori Baxley



Jill Grady

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Courtesy of the Department of the Navy, Naval Historical Center

After successfully entering Mobile Bay on August 5, 1864 the Union Navy was able to greatly restrict access to foreign supplies by the Confederacy. The lone obstacle to a complete blockade was a Confederate fort at the mouth of the Bay. On August 23, 1864 that fort fell to the Union Navy. What was the name of the fort? Need to find the answer, or get more information? Go to: <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/twhp/w/wwps/lessons/73morgan/73morgan.htm>.

### FastFact

Were it not for Dr. William Gorgas, an Alabama native, there would not be a Panama Canal. An inability to control the spread of tropical diseases foiled all attempts to build the canal until Gorgas arrived in 1904. He eradicated the diseases within a year, thanks to his understanding of sanitation techniques. Find out more about the man who declined the presidency of the University of Alabama, and became Surgeon General of the Army at: <http://www.arlingtoncemetery.net/wcgorgas.htm>.



## Death at Dawn

In 1854, the New England Emigrant Society recruited abolition minded settlers to establish a community in the newly created Kansas territory. It was in this territory that they established the town of Lawrence near the Missouri border. During its early years, tensions between Lawrence residents and their pro-slavery Missouri neighbors ran high.

Seven years later, when the Civil War began, Lawrence's population had grown to two thousand people, with most being ardent Union supporters. John Lane, a prominent resident and U.S. Senator, formed several self-sustaining units of Kansas irregulars known as Jayhawkers. Crossing the border to raid Missouri towns, they liberated slaves, horses, cows, cash, and other valuables. Missouri residents retaliated by forming their own units of Confederate irregulars.

On a sunny August afternoon in 1863, William Quantrill and three hundred other Missourians assembled near the Kansas-Missouri border. Spurring their horses westward they crossed into Kansas during the early evening, destined for Lawrence.



Riding through the night, the sun rose behind them as they arrived at the town's outskirts.

## The Web Journey

**New Perspectives on the West: William Clarke Quantrill**  
**New Perspectives on the West: The Lawrence Massacre**  
Prepared by PBS in conjunction with their eight part series about the development of the American West,

these two resources include a brief biography of Quantrill and a contemporary account of the massacre. Web address for the Quantrill biography: [http://www.pbs.org/weta/thewest/people/1\\_r/quantrill.htm](http://www.pbs.org/weta/thewest/people/1_r/quantrill.htm). Web address for The Lawrence Massacre: <http://www.pbs.org/weta/thewest/resources/archives/four/lawrence.htm>.

### Quantrill's Raid on Lawrence: A Question of Complicity

This article by Burton J. Williams was first published in the Kansas State Historical Quarterly in its Summer 1968 issue. Williams examines the role played by Lawrence residents in providing Quantrill with information prior to the raid. Web Address: [http://www.kshs.org/publicat/khq/1968/68\\_2\\_williams.htm](http://www.kshs.org/publicat/khq/1968/68_2_williams.htm).

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# SCHOOLS

## School Reminders:

### Yearbook Ads

The EHS Journalism staff members are out-and-about selling ads for the 2003-04 Elbala yearbook. The majority of the yearbook is paid for by ads. Yearbooks cost \$88 to make, but thanks to ads, we are able to sell them for \$28 each. As you can see, ad sales are VERY necessary. Please support the EHS Journalism Staff in our efforts to create a successful yearbook.

### PTO Open House

Elba Elementary School will host a PTO Open House on Monday, Aug. 25, at 6 p.m.

### Elba Tiger T-shirts

Elba Elementary School is selling Elba Tiger T-shirts and sweatshirts for the upcoming school year. The deadline for ordering is Aug. 29. The design will be printed on a gray shirt or sweatshirt. Cost is \$10 per T-shirt and \$20 per sweatshirt. (Please add \$1 for any size over adult XL). Contact Tiffany Germany at the Elba Elementary School (897-2814) for more information.

## Marching Tigers hold successful camp

by Katie Driggers

School may have started on Aug. 5, but music could be heard all over Elba High School two weeks earlier.

The Elba High School Marching Tiger Band held its annual band camp July 21 - Aug. 1, 2003.

The first three days of camp were held only for auxiliaries, percussion and rookies. Color guard, dance line and majorettes learned routines during this time, the percussion worked on a new cadence and music for the show and the rookies learned all the basics of marching.

Full band camp started Thursday, July 24. This day was also a rookie initiation. With bananas, whip cream and chocolate syrup, the band officers

Kindergarteners enjoyed first day

by Katie Driggers

Recently, I visited the elementary school and talked with some of our new kindergarteners about what they thought of coming to "big school". Here is what some of them had to say: **Cammie McCollough** - I was happy to come to school. **Clark Logan** - It was good. I had fun. **Avery Hanchey** - I didn't want to come to school. **Audrey Boswell** - It was fine. I liked it a lot. **Dalton Parrish** - It was good, but I wish I could ride my go-cart. **Ramelle Jones** - It was fine. I had fun. **Maggie Johnson** - We drew our face. It was a lot of fun.

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## Tiger Tales

Editors:  
Brittany Cooper  
& Alex Allen

## New attendance incentive approved

by Mary Katherine Head

This summer the Student Council officers at Elba High thought of a plan to raise students' averages and help decrease absences.

According to the plan, students will be able to exempt nine-week and semester exams if they have an "A" average and only one absence for each nine-week.

The council went to the administration with their idea, and the results were even better than they had anticipated. The attendance incentive was not only approved, but the administration also suggested that students with a "B" average and no absences be able to exempt their

exams as well.

Mrs. Bailey, Student Council sponsor, said she feels the new attendance incentive is an excellent idea, and the student body will take advantage of this opportunity.

"Every school system I've been in has had an exemption policy for students that make A's or A's and B's," said Johnny Dunn, principal of Elba High School. "I think this is a very good policy for all our students because it will help our students lower their attendance problems, and it will help them to increase their grade point average."

## Co-Op Spotlight

by Jessica Danford

This week's Co-Op Spotlight shines on Anna Anderson.

Anna is 17-years-old and is a senior at Elba High. She is the daughter of Kim and Angie Anderson and is currently employed at National Security Insurance Company in Elba.

Anna is involved in many different activities including varsity cheerleading, VICA, Senior Beta club and enjoys dancing on the Elba Marching Tiger dance line. Anna is also the reigning Miss Elba.

Congratulations Anna and keep up the good work!



Anna Anderson  
keep up the good work!

## Editorial: The Good and the Bad

by Karlie Copeland

We, as Alabamians, are approaching a very important election in which we have to decide whether or not we want more taxes. While there are plenty of good things to say about it, there is a downside to it!

We are currently in the midst of Alabama's worst financial crisis. Sources of revenue were spent by past administrations, the Medicaid budget is in a

shortfall, prison populations are doubling and health insurance costs for teachers and state employees are going up.

Bob Riley has planned to do numerous things to address the problem. According to his plan such areas as reforming the Medicaid drug program, cutting his own salary, cutting waste and mismanagement of where our money goes, educational reform, investing in Alabama's future, and tax reform will all be key to the future of Alabama.

What they (the government) are not telling is that the state will more likely pocket the money more than putting it where it should go. Working families will make 90 percent of the annual tax increase; homeowners and farmers while utility companies and corporations get a rate decrease. Riley is basically asking taxpayers to pay double what they say is needed to balance the budget.

The increase of taxes has always been a highly talked about subject. Whether we vote for or vote against Amendment 1, we all should get out and vote our convictions.

Alabamians need to take a stand and vote! It's our future and it depends on us.

Dual enrollment offers psychology to EHS students

by Brittany Cooper

We are off to another great start at EHS, and the Dual-Enrollment college courses are being given to the students again this year.

The college course is Psychology 200. The cost of the course is \$255, and the book is not covered in that price. The professor's name is Mrs. Campagna.

There is also a course offered every Monday and Wednesday night from 5:30-8:00 up until Christmas break. The course is taught by Mrs. Lynn Weeks.

Students, who enrolled before the deadline, received scholarship money to cover the course and book. Students who enroll after the deadline must pay the tuition and book fee.

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## Here We Come... by Anna Harrison



The 2003-2004 Journalism staff is off to a great start! We have gained new members in addition to the old ones: Mary Katherine Head - Senior Editor for Elbala, Alex Allen - Senior Editor for Tiger Tales, Brittany Cooper - Senior Editor for Tiger Tales, Meredith English - Senior Editor for Tiger Tales, Ayonna Proctor - Senior, Jessica Danford - Senior, Karrie Copeland - Senior, Christy Eubanks - Senior, Katie Driggers - Senior and Anna Harrison - Junior. As you can see we have an awesome staff and we are looking forward to a great year! Not pictured are Brittany Cooper and Christy Eubanks.

## Seventh graders share their thoughts

by Christy Eubanks

It's a new year here at EHS, a year full of changes. For the new seventh graders, the changes were extreme: new faces, new teachers and new school.

I asked some of the seventh graders "what are your thoughts on being in high school now?" Here are their responses:

**Giffin Cash** - Mr. Mendez is a lot cooler than people say he is. **Megan Sullivan** - It's a WHOLE LOT different from elementary school. **Richreana Singletary** - It's a lot

cooler than everybody says it is, and all the teachers a lot cooler. **Morgan Anderson** - It's better. You get more privileges. **Sonya Dodd** - I like seeing older people that I couldn't see at elementary, and there's more freedom.

**Megan Anderson** - I like it a lot better than elementary. The food is better, and I can see more older people.

**Kyu Coleman** - I like it, because there are vending machines and freedom. **Alexandra McCauley** - It's cool, because you're more free and can be around older people.

**Merrill Curran** - I like playing basketball. **John Davis** - I love the lunch-room.

**Maurice Jones** - I think it's cool. I like my teachers.

Starting at the bottom can be pretty tough, but, at the same time, starting high school can obviously be pretty cool too.

Betsy Martin joins elementary staff as new secretary

by Alex Allen

With the beginning of the new school year come the familiar faces of the faculty from past years. However, some of these faces are not as familiar as the others. One of those faces is that of Mrs. Betsy Martin, the new elementary school secretary.

She did not just appear from nowhere, however. She has plenty of ties to the school.

Mrs. Martin has three children enrolled in Elba City Schools: one senior, one eighth grader and one first grader. For two years she has even served as a substitute teacher.

Mrs. Martin's education is supplemented with a major in social rehab and minors in psychology and business. In the way of experience she served as secretary at the Church of Christ before finding a job at Elba Elementary.

As far as personality is concerned Mrs. Martin is very chipper and well suited for working with parents, students, and other faculty.

When asked how she felt towards her new job, she brightly stated that she just loved it. All in all, Mrs. Martin seems to be just what was needed to make those trips or calls to the office a little bit easier.

Betsy Martin

Betsy Martin

Betsy Martin

Betsy Martin

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Betsy Martin

Betsy Martin

# COMMUNITY NEWS



Five generations of the Gladys Carr family were represented recently during a family gathering. Those pictured include Mrs. Gladys Carr (seated, center); her son Jace Carr (standing, right); her granddaughter, Kathy Woodfin (seated, left); her great-granddaughter Carman Harris (standing, center); and great great-grandchildren Clayton and Aubrey Harris and Preston Rhodes.

## Huntingdon announces 2003 graduates

The following individuals graduated as members of the Class of 2003 at Huntingdon College.

Catherine Elizabeth Bedsole, Elba; Major - Psychology; daughter of Richard and Sonya Bedsole.

Amy Marie Halpin, Enterprise; Major - English; daughter of Lisa and Donald Halpin.

Elba Chamber of Commerce Banquet Thursday, Sept. 18

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## DUAL

(Continued from Page One)

On Monday, she was set to begin the course with a combined total from the two classes of 51 students.

In order to participate students have to be in grades 10-12; have permission of the principal, superintendent and parents; and have at least a "B" average.

Upon completion of the psychology course, Weeks said the students will receive a high school elective credit and a three hour credit for college psychology. However, she said the course is not weighted in regards to class ranking on the high school level.

After everything set in motion to begin this new cooperative effort with LBW, Weeks said the best news was yet to come for the students.

Not only will they be able to get high school and college credit for taking the psychology class, but the School-to-Career program based at the MacArthur campus of LBW has provided every student in the class with a scholarship to cover the entire cost of the course and the book.

Although this scholarship award is a one-time deal, Weeks said it has been a real boost towards the success of the program as she hopes the students will stay involved take

other courses in the future. "This is something I've always wanted to do," she said. "I'm really excited not only because it's a college class, but I'm still working with Elba High School students."

On a side note, the School-to-Career program recently donated a computer, software and printer to Elba High School to help students explore career options.

Melinda Vaughan looks on as her son, Judson, completes the paperwork to expand his knowledge through this college psychology course.

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EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION...Warden Lillie Watson-Foster (right) of the State of Alabama Department of Corrections Elba Work Release facility last week recognized correctional officer Robert Stacy Wambles (left) as Employee of the Quarter for the second quarter of 2003. Wambles was nominated for this award by his supervisor, Sgt. William W. Baxley. Beyond serving as a correctional officer at the work release facility, Wambles also serves as the inmate softball coach, personal development instructor and is involved in many other outside activities with the inmates and Department of Corrections. Officer Wambles is the son of Ronnie and Ramona Wambles of Elba. He is a 1992 graduate of Elba High School and has been employed as a correctional officer at the work release facility since Oct. 1998 where he provides security custody control for state convicted felons. Wambles is shown above receiving a Certificate of Achievement from Warden Watson-Foster.

## Dr. Walter J. Lawrence, M.D.

will begin his

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**1999 PONTIAC SUNFIRE SE** - AT-4 - sunroof - sharp - must see - great buy



**2003 CADILLAC DEVILLE** - low miles - must see



**2001 F 150 SUPERCREW** - Lariat - 4 wd - local trade - one owner



**2001 FORD EXPEDITION (EDDIE BAUER)** - extra nice - loaded with leather



**2001 MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE** - leather - low mileage



**2002 CHEVROLET TAHOE LS** - local trade - must see



**2000 FOCUS SE** - pretty color - automatic



**1998 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE** - Laredo - local trade-in - extra clean



**2002 MERCURY SABLE** - PS - PW/locks - tilt - cruise - alum wheels



**2001 F150 LARIAT** - super cab - running board - trailer tow - sprayed in bedliner



**1999 SUBURBAN LS** - only 59 K - very clean



**2001 LINCOLN TOWN CAR "SIGNATURE"** - extra clean - fully loaded - great value



**2002 Z 71 EX CAB LS** - local trade - must see



**2002 FORD EXPLORER XLT** - 4 dr - power windows & locks - tilt & cruise



**2000 Z71 SPORTSIDE** - reg cab - loaded - local trade - great buy



**1999 TAUROS 4 X 4** - loaded - local trade - very clean - one owner



**2001 F 250 XL** - super duty - long wheel base - V8 - cruise - trailer tow - captain chairs

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# The Elba Clipper

Volume 107, Number 11

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, August 28, 2003

2 Sections, 16 Pages

## Elba City Council tables action on beer license

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council named Lynn Baker to a second term on the Elba Board of Zoning Adjustments. The first three year term expired this month.

Other board members are Nancy Brunson, Scott Kelley, Doug Martin Sr. and Marianne Marler. Mike McGuire and City Clerk Wayne Grantham serve as Supernumerary members.

Approval of an Off-Premise beer license for James Gray was postponed by the council after Mayor James Grimes told council members that he required the ABI (Alabama Bureau of Investigation) report has not been received by city officials.

He explained that both the Police Chief and City Clerk need this background report before issuing their opinion on the application.

The application will be reconsidered after the ABI report is received.

On hand to oppose the issuing of the license were Mary Coleman and Renee Turner. Both told council members they live in the neighborhood and didn't

want beer sold around their children.

They had also opposed an alcohol license for this location several months ago.

Grimes reviewed the current budget and told council members the present budget was close to projections in both income and expenses.

He spoke briefly on the budget planning for the new year. The mayor warned the first rough figures show expenditures \$300,000 above income. Unless some additional money is found the city will be forced to trip several projects they had hoped to start after October 1.

Both the mayor and city clerk expressed thanks to city employees for their efforts in making the Saturday night concert a success.

The council also approved a resolution accepting Beaver Dam Street after being told the housing project owners were dropping their lawsuit against the city and furnishing the money for resurfacing the street.

## Hearing held on 3 year highway plan

The Alabama Highway Department held a public hearing in Troy Monday evening on the three year plan for the Seventh District, which includes Coffee County.

Among those attending from Elba was Mayor James Grimes. Printed handouts, given to all citizens who attended, gave timetables for work on the 4-laning of U.S. 84 from Enterprise to Andalusia, ranging from immediate paving through 2005.

However department personnel cautioned that some dates might not be accurate. An example of this would be the printed date for paving the section from the 203 Bypass westward to

## Coffee County receives safety award from ACCA

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Commission celebrated Monday, Aug. 25, its awarding of a safety award which recently was presented at the 75th Annual Convention of the Association of County Commissioners of Alabama (ACCA).

Coffee County was among five Alabama counties recognized at the convention for safety and loss control efforts.

Of the five counties, Coffee County and Hale County were recognized for making the most improvement in lowering their liability claims ratios during the most recent two years. Each county received a plaque in recognition of their efforts.

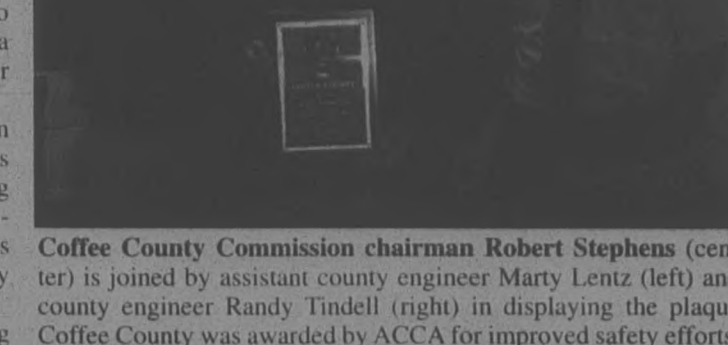
Coffee County Commission chairman Robert Stephens displayed the plaque during Monday's regular commission meeting, and said he is proud of all the county employees.

"This award is a strong

reminder to county officials and to citizens that safety in county buildings and by county employees benefit everyone," said Perry County Commissioner and ACCA President Johnny Flowers.

The counties of Geneva, Clay and Henry were recognized for having the lowest three-year liability claims loss ratios. These counties each were awarded a plaque and a check for \$1,000.

Flowers said all five counties participate in a self-funded liability insurance pool sponsored by the ACCA, and the recognition event was established several years ago by the Board of Trustees of the Liability Insurance Pool.



## Motorists urged to drive carefully during Labor Day holiday

travelers," said Coppage. "Motorists are urged to join in this safety effort by driving defensively, obeying speed limits and all other traffic laws and buckling up on every trip."

All available troopers will be on duty thanks to selective traffic enforcement grants that will fund the additional patrol effort.

"Troopers will be working to protect the safety of holiday

limit violators, troopers will be watchful for drunken and other dangerous drivers.

Troopers also will focus enforcement in construction zones, including the Interstate 20 corridor. Selected troopers dressed as construction workers will utilize new laser speed detection devices to catch speed violators as part of "Operation Hardhat," a new construction zone enforcement program.

The Department of Public

Please See DRIVE, Page 2



CPA OFFICE OPENS ON THE SQUARE...The Elba Chamber of Commerce welcomed a certified public accountant to the business industry last Thursday, Aug. 21, during an official ribbon cutting ceremony. The office of William D. Dean, CPA, recently opened on the square in Elba, and several local officials stopped by last Thursday to show their support for the city's newest business. Those present for the ribbon cutting included (from left) Destiny Hudson, Rebecca English, Junaia Roden, Brandi Dean, Mary McMillan, Future Little Miss Elba Annley Padgett, Ashton Dean, Paula Black, Sybil Henderson, Mayor James Grimes, Barry Giles, Rachel Baxter, Little Miss Elba Reagan Kelley, Kenneth Calhoun, William D. Dean, CPA, Rev. John Baxter, Dennis Dean, Doris Matthews, Denise Sauls, Jimmy Harrison, Renee Lambert, Jonathan Dean, Tonya Jones, Herby McCall and Kaye Whitworth - executive director of the Elba Chamber of Commerce.

INSIDE  
Lynn Baker becomes new E.E.S. counselor

INSIDE  
2003 High School Football Season begins this week



OPENING FOR GEORGE JONES...Elba native Rob Hudson (center) put on quite a show for his hometown last Saturday, Aug. 23, at Miller Memorial Stadium in Elba. Hudson served as the opening act for country music legend George Jones in a concert celebrating 150 years of Elba's history. The concert was one of many events being held this year as part of Elba's Sesquicentennial Celebration, and local folks found it only fitting to have a "hometown boy" get things started. Approximately 3,000 country music fans filled the stadium and field Saturday evening as Hudson and "The Possum" delivered memorable performances. The next "Celebrate Elba 150" event will be the Sesquicentennial Ball on Saturday, Sept. 6. A few additional pictures from Saturday's concert can be found on Page 7A.

## Making the grade Coffee County roads rank second

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Coffee County Commissioners were filled with good news Monday, Aug. 25, during the regular meeting of the commission as two separate award recognitions were highlighted.

Coffee County Commission chairman Robert Stephens first announced the county's recent awarding of a safety award from the Association of County Commissioners of Alabama (ACCA).

Next, Stephens praised the county's highway department as he announced that the Alabama

Department of Transportation recently completed its 2003 Maintenance Inspections of county roads, and Coffee County ranked second in the state for its roads. The county received a grade of 92.17 which was only 14 hundredths of a point behind Houston County at 92.31.

"I'm proud of our highway department and everyone here," Stephens said. "With the amount of money they (Houston County) have and the amount of money we (Coffee County) have, this is a great accomplishment."

Crowley said the goal of Coffee County Family Services is to help find stability for families in Coffee County, and hundreds upon hundreds of families are on their way to good health because of the program's assistance.

Another program Crowley said is making a big impact in the community is the Program for Pregnant Teens.

In 1998, she said six out of 10 pregnant teens dropped out of school; however, today, that statistic has made a complete turnaround.

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